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April 27, 2006

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Commissioners

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director

RE: Highway 101 GAP Closure Projects – Status Report – Agenda Item 09

Belvedere

Jerry Butler

Corte Madera

Melissa Gill

Fairfax

Lew Tremaine

Larkspur

Joan Lundstrom

Mill Valley

Dick Swanson

Novato

Pat Eklund

Ross

Jeanne Barr

San Anselmo

Peter Breen

San Rafael

Al Boro

Sausalito

Amy Belser

Tiburon

Alice Fredericks

County of Marin

Susan Adams

Hal Brown

Steve Kinsey

Charles McGlashan

Cynthia Murray

Executive Summary

Caltrans has awarded the Central San Rafael Contract to Ghilotti Brothers, Inc. of San Rafael. Work on the first stage of construction, relocating West Francisco Boulevard is scheduled to start on April 24, 2006.

Staff has submitted 90% plans for Caltrans review for the multi-use path and sound absorbing soundwalls. Final plans will be submitted in June, 2006. The SMART Board unanimously approved the Linden Lane Access subject to TAM's addressing a few concerns expressed by SMART staff. TAM staff will continue to work cooperatively with SMART to address their concerns. The aesthetics of the path and sound absorbing soundwalls was presented to the City of San Rafael Design Review Board and the results of this meeting will be presented at the Board meeting.

TAM Staff is working closely with Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission to fund estimated cost overruns on the Puerto Suello Hill Segment of the Highway 101 Gap Closure Project from FY 06/07 STIP funds.

Corte Madera Creek

The completion of the Corte Madera Creek Gap Closure Project and Sir Francis Drake Contract Change Order (CCO) work has continued to be delayed due to rain. Approximately three more weeks of work remain on the Sir Francis Drake CCO work and two additional months to complete the project.

Central San Rafael

Caltrans has awarded and approved the contract to Ghilotti Brothers Inc. of San Rafael. Work is anticipated to begin April 24, 2006. The first phase of work, relocating West Francisco Boulevard, is scheduled to be complete by November 22, 2006. Caltrans and the contractor are working closely with the various utility companies to ensure that this phase of work stays on schedule.

TAM Staff is working with Caltrans on coordinating a ground breaking ceremony. The date will be announced at the April 27, 2006 Board meeting.

Puerto Suello Hill – Multi Use Path

The aesthetics of the Lincoln Avenue undercrossing were presented at the City of San Rafael Design Review Board (DRB). The DRB made recommendations regarding the aesthetics which will be presented at the Board Meeting.

The SMART board met on April 19, 2006 and discussed the Linden Lane access, which impacts a small portion of SMART right-of-way. The SMART Board unanimously approved the Linden Lane Access contingent on the following:

- There must be a minimum 6-feet high solid barrier between the path and the railroad tracks
- The proposed retaining wall structure must meet railroad E-80 loading
- Path must have railroad PUC approval
- Clarification is needed regarding maintenance of facilities built on SMART right-of-way

TAM Staff will continue to work cooperatively with SMART to address their concerns to include the Linden Lane access in the project.

It is anticipated that a draft agreement between TAM and SMART will be presented at the May 25, 2006 TAM Board Meeting.

The Nolte design team submitted 90% plans to Caltrans on April 7, 2006. The schedule to include the multi-use path into the Caltrans Highway design project is as follows:

- 95% Level of Design Complete - May 2006
- Final Plans to Caltrans – June 2006
- Begin Construction with Mainline Project – January 15, 2007
- Complete Construction – December, 2008

Puerto Suello Hill - Sound Reduction Strategy

Staff and the Nolte design team continue to refine the design of the sound absorbing sound walls which follows the same schedule noted above for the multi-use path. Staff is working on coordinating a meeting with Will Kempton, Caltrans Director, to discuss the shoulder width design exception for the east soundwall.

Staff presented the aesthetics of soundwalls at the City of San Rafael Design Review Board Meeting on April 4, 2006. The preferred aesthetic treatment for the soundwalls will be presented at the board meeting.

Puert Suello Hill - Funding

The cost estimate for the highway portion of the Highway 101 Puerto Suello Hill project has increased from \$19.7M to \$30M. This increase is a result of increased material costs. Staff is working with Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to fully fund the \$10.3M cost increase with STIP funds.

In addition, TAM has applied for \$2.432 in Transportation Enhancement funds, which will be used for the multi-use path. The total cost of the path is estimated to be \$7M.